

Attorney's Docket No.: 6097.P055

Patent

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of:

Wolfgang Fuellhass, et al.

Application No.: Not Yet Assigned  
 (US National Phase filing of  
 PCT/EP2003/003681 under 35 USC 371)

Filed: Herewith  
 For: METHOD FOR GENERATING A  
 SUBSTANTIALLY UNINTERRUPTED  
 CONNECTION OF THE PERIPHERAL  
 WALL PORTIONS OF TWO  
 ADJACENT TUBULAR SEGMENTS

Examiner: Not Yet Assigned

Art Unit: Not Yet Assigned

Commissioner for Patents  
 PO Box 1450  
 Arlington, VA 22313-1450

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Dear Sir:

Prior to examination of the above-referenced application, the applicant respectfully requests the Examiner to enter the following amendment. The Examiner is requested to enter this amendment before calculating the fee.

Certificate of Express Mailing

"Express Mail" mailing label number: EV 409355979 US  
 Date of Deposit: December 9, 2004

I hereby certify that I am causing this paper or fee to be deposited with the United States Postal Service "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" service on the date indicated above and that this paper or fee has been addressed to the Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450.

(Typed or printed name of person mailing paper or fee)

Greg Kelly

(Typed or printed name of person mailing paper or fee)

(Signature of person mailing paper or fee)

December 9, 2004

(Date signed)

Inventor: Wolfgang Fuellhass, et al.  
 Application No.: Not Yet Assigned

- 1 -

Examiner: Not Yet Assigned  
 Art Unit: Not Yet Assigned